

XXXIV.—RECOVERY FROM THE BITE OF A PHOORSA
(*ECHIS CARINATA*)

In vol. xxxii, No. 4, of the *Bombay Natural History Society's Journal*, I see an account of the recovery from the bite of a phoorsa, in which there is some doubt whether any poison was injected when the man was bitten. I can give an instance of complete recovery within twelve hours and with no doubt whatever as to the injection of poison from the fangs of the viper. Years ago my brother, the late Mr. John Strip, Assistant Collector of Customs, Karachi, and I were out after ibex and oorial in the Pabb Hills about thirty miles from Karachi, and early one morning, while returning from our trip, one of our camelmen, as he was getting his camel to be saddled, was bitten by a phoorsa on the foot. He had a stick in his hand and killed the reptile bringing it to our tent for us to see. My brother, who always carried ammonia and other medicines in his shooting trips, promptly gave the man a stiff dose in water making him move about briskly as he was beginning to feel drowsy, a sure symptom of the effect of the poison. After that we had to do a stage of twelve miles on our camels with the result that the jolting of his camel prevented the poison having greater effect on the man. We halted for a short time at Band Muradkhan and the man being still a bit drowsy got another dose of ammonia. When we reached Karachi in the evening he was all right and made a hearty meal. He had quite recovered.

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KARACHI,
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XXXV.—OCCURRENCE OF THE 'SLIMY' COECILIAN
(*ICHTHYOPHIS GLUTINOSUS*, BOULENGER) IN
PANCHGANI

The Coecilians are worm-like and blind Amphibians which inhabit damp situations and burrow in soft mud. In the *Fauna of British India*, Boulenger describes three genera and five species of these Batrachians.

In the collection of snakes, sent to me for identification by the Rev. E. Blatter, I came across a specimen of *Ichthyophis glutinosus*. It is interesting to note that this species has not been recorded so far from Panchgani (Satara District) or its vicinity, in spite of the fact, that its cousin—*Ichthyophis monochrcus*—has been recorded from Malabar, Western Ghats, Surat and Khandalla. In the Fauna Volume the range of *I. glutinosus* is given as 'mountains of Ceylon, Malabar, Eastern Himalyas, Khasi Hills, Burma, Siam, Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Borneo, Java.' I am much obliged to Col. Sewell and Dr. Prashad for kindly informing me that a variety of